

ATTACHMENT H

PACIFIC YEW HARVEST WILDLIFE MITIGATION ON ROGUE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Rogue River
National Forest

Butte Falls Ranger District
720 Laurel St P.O. Box 227
Butte Falls, OR 97522
(503) 865-3581

Reply to: 2600 Wildlife

Date: April 28, 1992

Subject: Proposed Yew Bark Harvest

To: Jerry Hellinga, ID Team

Harvest of Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*) bark is proposed for fiscal year 1992 on the Butte Falls District. Pacific yew is valuable to many species of wildlife. Elk and deer often utilize yew bark and needles as a source of food. Thick patches of yew serve as excellent sources of thermal and hiding cover for deer and elk as well as bear. Ruffed Grouse utilize thick yew patches for drumming and breeding.

The proposed harvest area has been managed extensively for timber production. Most of the large overstory trees were removed 10-20 years ago. Pacific yew stands in the area are extensive and contain many large diameter trees that are an estimated 300-500 years in age. Some of these trees are found in large clumps and patches of 15-25 trees or more.

In order to preserve stand integrity and unique habitat characteristics associated with the yew groves or clumps, I recommend that patches of 10-15 trees be retained approximately every acre within the unit. Select specifically for patches with the largest yew trees that form dense canopies. Retention of small clumps and patches will retain valuable wildlife habitat throughout the proposed yew bark harvest area.

Scott G. Armentrout
District Biologist

